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EDITORS.

Gen. Johnston's Manifesto.

CHARLOTTE, MAY 6, 1865.—Having made a military convention with Maj. Gen. Sherman to terminate hostilities in North and South Carolina, Georgia and Florida, it seems to me proper to show to the people of these States the condition of military affairs which rendered that measure absolutely necessary. On the 26th of April, the day of the convention, by the returns of three Lieutenant-Generals of the army of Tennessee, (that under my command,) the number of infantry and artillery present and absent was 70,510; the number present 18,578; the effective total for fighting force was 14,179. Lieut. Gen. Hampton's last returns that I can find was dated April 7, when his effective total of cavalry was 5,440. But between the 7th and 26th, it was much reduced by the effects of events in Virginia and apprehension of surrender. In South Carolina, we had Young's division of cavalry, (less than 1,000,) besides Reserves and State troops; together, much inferior to the Federal force in that State. In Florida, we were relatively as weak. In Georgia, our inadequate force had been captured in Macon. In Lieut. Gen. Taylor's department, there were no means of opposing the formidable army under Gen. Canby, which had taken Mobile; nor the cavalry under Gen. Wilson, which had captured every other place of military importance West of Augusta. The latter had been stopped at Macon by the armistice, as we had been near Greensboro. But its distance from Augusta being less than half ours, that place was in its power. To carry on the war, therefore, we had to depend on the army of Tennessee alone. The United States could have brought against it twelve or fifteen times its number in the armies of Generals Grant, Sherman and Canby. With such odds against us—without the means of procuring ammunition or repairing arms—without money or credit to provide food—it was impossible to continue the war except as robbers. The only consequences of prolonging the struggle would have been the destruction of our remnant of an army—the best and bravest men who had served the Confederacy—and great suffering of women and children by the desolation and ruin inevitable from the marching of 200,000 men through the country.

Having failed in an attempt to make terms giving security to citizens as well as soldiers, I had to choose between bringing the evils of war wantonly upon those I had been chosen to defend, and averting those calamities with the confession that hopes were dead, which every thinking Southern man had already lost. I therefore stipulated with Gen. Sherman for the protection of the true and brave men dependent on me, on terms which also terminated hostilities in all the country over which our commands extend—and announced it to your Governor by telegraph—as follows:

"The disaster in Virginia, the capture by the enemy of all our work shops for preparing ammunition or repairing arms—the impossibility of recruiting our little army, opposed to by more than ten times its number, or of supplying it, except by robbing our own citizens, destroyed all hope of successful war—I have, therefore, made a military convention with Major-General Sherman to terminate hostilities in North and South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. I made this convention to spare the blood of this gallant little army—to prevent further suffering of our people by the devastation and ruin inevitable from the marches of invading armies and to avoid the crime of waging a hopeless war."

J. B. JOHNSTON.

CAMDEN, WEDNESDAY, MAY 24.

Through the courtesy of Mr. JAMES B. CURETON we have been favored with Charlotte papers of a late date; also a number of interesting Federal military orders for the district of North Carolina.

We have also been favored by Mr. WM. C. COURTENAY and REV. MAXING BROWN with copies of the Columbia Phoenix to the 23d inst.

In consequence of the assassination of ABRAHAM LINCOLN, President Johnson has recommended Thursday the 1st day of June to be set apart as a day for special humiliation and prayer.

The Columbia Phoenix of yesterday says: In consequence of orders received here and issued by Major General Gillmore, the functions of the Executive Department of the government of the State have ceased. In our issue of to-morrow will appear the order of Gen. Gillmore and the address of Gov. Magrath, officially notifying the people of the State that he has ceased to exercise any of the powers of his office as the Chief Magistrate of the State.

We cheerfully give place to the communication of our esteemed correspondent, "Camden," and commend his proposition to the favorable consideration of our readers. It appears to us that there is a nascent spirit of lawlessness abroad which, if not checked in time, may grow into a settled and habitual defiance of all law, and produce the most disastrous consequences. But we also believe that by prompt action the danger may be arrested. Such an organization as "Camden" suggests, if placed under the control of prudent, discreet and well-known officers, would at once overawe the reckless, and recall the merely thoughtless from a path that can have but one fatal ending, and give us a sense of security we are far from feeling at this time.

PRESIDENT ANDREW JOHNSON.—We have just read in the Columbia Phoenix the address of the President before some committees from the Northern States, in regard to his future course with the conquered States and the leaders of the rebellion; but they are too lengthy for our columns.

The president has evidently studiously avoided from some unknown motive—giving expression to anything definite or positive, save in two particulars. He says, first, that murder is a great crime, and in all ages of the world its perpetrators have been punished with death; he infers that no one doubts that the murderer or "assassin of the great and good man," Mr. LINCOLN, deserves death; and he reasons therefore that if the murderer of the President of a nation shall be punished with death, those who attempt the life of the nation itself, should and shall meet the same punishment. There can be no doubt of the intentions of the President in regard to the leaders and prominent men of the South who were instrumental in the effort to achieve the independence of the slave States. We are led to infer that they will be tried on charge of "treason," which the President takes occasion to pronounce a greater crime than murder, and its perpetrators less deserving of mercy than those who commit murder.

He has much to say about "mercy" in his address, and has announced his opinion that, in the ultimate results, it will be a mercy to Christianity, and will further and promote the great cause of "civilization," to make examples of the leaders and instigators of the great rebellion, by punishing them with death. These topics, Christianity and civilization, in connection with republicanism and universal freedom, are largely expatiated upon by the President; and he satisfactorily refers the world to his past career as evidence of what his future is to be in reference thereto. Those who are familiar with Mr. JOHNSON'S past history do not recollect something relative to a document once emi-

nating from him relative to the "great converging lines of Democracy and Religion," and the same ideas then advanced, stand forth in his address to the committee from the "Christian Association." He thinks that our government, through the influences of Religio-Democracy, will eventually loom up as the grand centre and emporium of civilization, the arts and the sciences, and that ere long we will give religion, and morals, and manners, and literature, and laws to all the world: and that the United States are destined to some day or other startle the world with effects "more wonderful than those produced by Aladdin's wonderful lamp."

More than two thousand years ago, Xerxes, after his illustrious predecessor had subjugated the Ionian rebels, advanced similar ideas in an address before a committee or convention, and used almost the identical language about the "manifest destiny" of Persia. Other monarchs and rulers have indulged in similar hopes and prophecies; and yet, what is more remarkable—in referring to his past history in regard to religion, the President is oblivious to the fact that his personal character has been strongly inconsistent with his political theories;—he has no religion at all, if we are not misinformed.

But to his enthusiasm, should it have a realization, we have no idea that the world will object, nor will it indeed censure in anywise. However, we cannot lead ourself to the belief that the enlightened and Christian world of the nineteenth century, can or will look on and silently and calmly contemplate the execution of the rulers of either the civil or military governments of the late Confederate States, without feeling that the God of nations will visit that nation attempting it, with a retribution more terrible than befall for similar crimes, and offences, tyrannical Rome and impetuous Carthage. After SALAMIS XERXES lamented his folly; and President JOHNSON may have reason yet to lament his policy by rejecting good and wise council.

News Summary.

Gov. PIERPONT has been authorized and empowered to establish the new State government of Virginia at Richmond. He is to call together the loyal State legislature, already elected.

Gen. LEE has expressed his intention to leave the city (Richmond) and will reside on a farm near City Point.

The United States authorities have decided that all rebel officers who have surrendered to Gen. GRANT, have no homes within the loyal States; and "have no right to come to places which were (not?) their homes prior to their going into the rebellion," and that the "wearing of their uniforms" in loyal States is "an act of hostility to the government."

The motto "In God is our trust," is to be stamped on all United States coin hereafter issued.

The government is erecting extension machine shops, warehouses, &c., at Chattanooga, evincing a determination to hold it as a military post.

Gen. JOHNSTON divided all the specie in his possession among his soldiers, on the disbanding of his army. The United States armies captured from the Confederate States armies, during the last four months of the war, 1655 pieces of cannon—enough to make a monumental column, many times larger than the one in the Place Vendôme, to the great Napoleon.

A warrant is on foot to "establish a loyal government in North Carolina." Accounts from that State represent affairs in their principal cities as progressing "very satisfactory and smoothly." Home guards, under the charge of an army officer, are to be formed of loyal citizens, to serve as a police force in all the counties. The Bulletin (Charlotte) says that the bearing of the military authorities there is kind and courteous, so far as the editor has seen. The Bulletin publishes a great many official orders from the military authorities of the State and general government. The Secretary of War orders the Commissary of Prisoners to have rolls made out &c., as follows:

Tenth. The Commissary of Prisoners will have rolls made out of the name, residence, time and place of capture, and occupation of all prisoners of war who will take the oath of allegiance to the United States to the end that such as are disposed to become good and loyal citizens of the United States, and who are proper objects of Executive clemency, may be released upon the terms that the President shall deem fit and consistent with public safety.

MAXIMILIAN'S throne seems to be tottering. A London paper says his empire must fall, if Europe does not interfere early. But it says that England is not prepared to lend her hand. The Times says the United States may speedily enforce the Monroe doctrine, if it chooses.

The telegraph and railroad lines in North Carolina are under exclusive military control. No travel is allowed on the railroad, except under military permits.

Flour is selling in New York at about \$8 per barrel; bacon 15 1-2 to 16 1-2 per pound; brown sugar as high as 18 1-4 cents per pound; coffee from 21 1-2 to 31 1-2 per pound; cotton from 32 to 50 cents. Since the close of the war this article has been experiencing rapid declines. The Herald notices a decline of three cents in one day.

To the Editor of the Journal and Confederate

In your issue of 1st May, Dr. THOS. W. SALMOND, publishes in a card, a statement, which I must correct. I have never been "solemnly pledged not to proceed, &c.," nor have I been under any obligations whatever, in the matter as alluded to.

I have a right to expect, that in future, Dr. SALMOND will only speak for his friend, Capt. DEPASS; and it would have been better, had he avoided the public declaration of Capt. DEPASS' intentions, as it but serves to defeat the very object he professes to have in view.

I am, sir, &c.,

WM. A. COURTENAY.

NEWBERRY, S. C., May 18, 1865.

[FOR THE JOURNAL AND CONFEDERATE.]

MR. EDITOR: In reply to the card of WM. A. COURTENAY, which appears in the present issue of your paper, purporting to be an answer to a communication of mine in your issue of May 1st, I have only to say: that Capt. DEPASS informed me in substance as follows: That on or about the 19th of Nov. 1864, he was sent for by Gen. ROBERTSON, who said to him, that he (ROBERTSON) had been informed that a difficulty was pending between Capt. COURTENAY and himself, and that he (ROBERTSON) would put him (DEPASS) under arrest, unless he pledged himself not to proceed further with it, without first giving him (ROBERTSON) due notice of the fact. Capt. DEPASS hesitated until Gen. ROBERTSON informed him that the same order had been issued to Capt. COURTENAY. This course was consonant with reason and justice, especially as Mr. COURTENAY was the challenging party; hence my reason for saying that both gentlemen were solemnly pledged, and so forth. But be that as it may, Mr. COURTENAY well knew when he published his card of 1st May that Capt. DEPASS was under a solemn pledge not to proceed with the matter without first giving due notice to his superior officer, because he was notified by me of the facts by note dated 26th Nov. 1864. Mr. COURTENAY in the conclusion of his card suggests that "it would have been better, had he (I) avoided the public declaration of Capt. DEPASS' intentions, as it but serves to defeat the very object he professes to have in view." This I retort on Mr. COURTENAY himself. Capt. DEPASS "professes to have in view" no object save to respond to a demand which Mr. COURTENAY himself has made. The affair was quietly reposing; the public generally (if they knew anything of the matter at all) supposed it to have been quashed.

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